

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical-disk recording apparatus according to claim~~

2, An optical-disk recording apparatus for recording data in a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said optical-disk recording apparatus comprising:

address-mark detection means for detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and

data-recording decision and control means for deciding and controlling a period of recording data in the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said data-recording decision and control means uses an address-mark detection timing of said address-mark detection means in deciding and controlling the data recording period;

wherein said data-recording decision and control means includes

address-information error detection means for detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address-information based on the address information and the error detection code, and

timing generation means for generating a recording timing signal for deciding a data recording operation by using the address-mark detection timing of detecting the address mark by said address-mark detection means and a timing of detecting by said address-information error detection means that there is no error in the address information; and

wherein said data-recording decision and control means, ~~(110, 113, 114)~~ when recording data in the data recording field of a predetermined sector, permits data recording only in the following two cases when recording data in the data recording field of a predetermined sector:

~~(case 1)~~ where address information having no error is obtained as a result of error detection in the subject sector executed by ~~the said~~ address-information error detection means ~~(113)~~, and

~~(case 2)~~ where at least one piece of address information having no error is obtained in a predetermined number of sectors preceding the subject sector as a result of error detection by ~~the said~~ address-information-error detection means ~~(113)~~ and at least one address mark is detected in the address mark field of the subject sector.

4. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The optical-disk recording apparatus according to claim 2,~~ An optical-disk recording apparatus for recording data in a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said optical-disk recording apparatus comprising:

address-mark detection means for detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and

data-recording decision and control means for deciding and controlling a period of recording data in the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said data-recording decision and control means uses an address-mark detection timing of said address-mark detection means in deciding and controlling the data recording period;

wherein said data-recording decision and control means includes

address-information error detection means for detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information based on the address information and the error detection code, and

timing generation means for generating a recording timing signal for deciding a data recording operation by using the address-mark detection timing of detecting the address mark by said address-mark detection means and a timing of detecting by said address-information error detection means that there is no error in the address information; and

wherein said timing generation means (114) includes:

clock generation means (201, 401) for generating a reference clock serving as a criterion of recording data;

counting means (202, 402) for count-specifying a position in one sector by using the reference clock generated by said clock generation means;

counted-value correction means (204, 404) for correcting the counted values of said counting means (202, 402) with predetermined values (A to H) at the address-mark detection timing (AMDP) of detecting the address mark by the said address-mark detection means (111) and the timing (CRCOK) of detecting that there is no error in the address information by the said address-information-error detection means, (113); and

decoding means (203, 403) for decoding the count output (CTO) by the said counting means (202, 402) corrected with the predetermined values to thereby produce the recording-timing signals (~~WGS, ENBL~~).

5. **(Currently Amended)** The optical-disk recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said decoding means (403)

decodes the count output ~~of the~~ by said counting means (402) to generate an address-mark detection window (~~AMDWNS~~), and

permits ~~the said~~ counted-value correction means (404) to correct the counted value when the address-mark detection timing (~~AMDP; AMDP b, c, and d~~) detected by ~~the said~~ address-mark detection means (111) is present within the address-mark detection window (~~AMDWNS~~), and

inhibits ~~the said~~ counted-value correction means (404) ~~to correct from correcting~~ the counted value when the address-mark detection timing (~~AMDP~~; ~~AMDP-a~~) is not present ~~outside~~ within the address-mark detection window (~~AMDNWS~~).

6. **(Currently Amended)** The optical-disk recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

the header field (~~1002~~) in each sector includes a plurality of address fields (~~1004a~~ to ~~1004d~~) each having an address mark field (~~AM~~), an address information field (~~PID~~), and an error detection code field; (~~IED~~); and

when it is ~~detected~~ said address-information error detection means detects that there is no error in the address information in at least one address field in each sector (~~OK-e~~), the said timing generation means (114) inhibits the said counted-value correction means (204) to correct from correcting the counted value even if an address mark is detected (~~AMDP-d~~) in the subsequent address fields thereafter in the subject sector.

7. **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Cancelled)**

9. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The optical-disk reproducing apparatus according to claim 8,~~ An optical-disk reproducing apparatus for reproducing data from a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said optical-disk reproducing apparatus comprising:

address-mark detection means for detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and

data-reproducing decision and control means for deciding and controlling a period of reproducing data from the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said data-reproducing decision and control means uses an address-mark detection timing of said address-mark detection means in deciding and controlling the data reproducing period;

wherein said data-reproducing decision and control means includes

address-information error detection means for detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information based on the address information and the error detection code, and

timing generation means for generating a reproducing timing signal for deciding a data reproducing operation by using the address-mark detection timing detected by said address-mark detection means and a timing detected by said address-information error detection means of detecting that there is no error in the address information; and

wherein said data-reproducing decision and control means, (110, 113, 114)-when reproducing data from the data recording field of a predetermined sector, permits data reproduction only in the following two cases when reproducing data from the data recording field of a predetermined sector:

(case 1)-where address information having no error detected is obtained as a result of error detection in the subject sector executed by the said address-information error detection means (113), and

(case 2)-where at least one piece of address information having no error detected is obtained in a predetermined number of sectors preceding the subject sector as a result of error detection by the said address-information-error detection means (113)-and at least one address mark is detected in the address mark field of the subject sector.

**10. (Currently Amended)** The optical-disk reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, An optical-disk reproducing apparatus for reproducing data from a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an

error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said optical-disk reproducing apparatus comprising:

address-mark detection means for detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and

data-reproducing decision and control means for deciding and controlling a period of reproducing data from the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said data-reproducing decision and control means uses an address-mark detection timing of said address-mark detection means in deciding and controlling the data reproducing period;

wherein said data-reproducing decision and control means includes

address-information error detection means for detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information based on the address information and the error detection code, and

timing generation means for generating a reproducing timing signal for deciding a data reproducing operation by using the address-mark detection timing detected by said address-mark detection means and a timing detected by said address-information error detection means of detecting that there is no error in the address information; and

wherein said timing generation means (114) includes:

clock generation means (301, 401) for generating a reference clock serving as a criterion of reproducing data;

counting means (302, 402) for count-specifying a position in one sector by using the reference clock generated by said clock generation means;

counted-value correction means (304, 404) for correcting the counted values of said counting means (302, 402) with predetermined values (A to H) at the address-mark detection timing (AMDP) of detecting the address mark by the said address-mark detection means (111) and the a timing (CRCOK) of detecting that there is no error in the address information by the said address-information-error detection means, (113); and

decoding means ~~(303, 403)~~ for decoding the count output ~~(CTO)~~ by the said counting means ~~(302, 402)~~ corrected with the predetermined values to thereby produce the reproducing-timing signals ~~(RGS, WNS)~~.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The optical-disk reproducing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said decoding means ~~(403)~~

decodes the count output of ~~the~~ said counting means ~~(402)~~ to generate an address-mark detection window ~~(AMDWNS)~~, and

permits ~~the~~ said counted-value correction means ~~(404)~~ to correct the counted value when the address-mark detection timing ~~(AMDP; AMDP-b, -c, and -d)~~ detected by ~~the~~ said address-mark detection means ~~(111)~~ is present within the address-mark detection window ~~(AMDWNS)~~, and

inhibits ~~the~~ said counted-value correction means ~~(404)~~ ~~to correct from correcting~~ the counted value when the address-mark detection timing ~~(AMDP; AMDP-a)~~ is not present ~~outside~~ within the address-mark detection window ~~(AMDNWS)~~.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The optical-disk reproducing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein:

the header field ~~(1002)~~ in each sector includes a plurality of address fields ~~(1004a to 1004d)~~ each having an address mark field ~~(AM)~~, an address information field ~~(PID)~~, and an error detection code field; ~~(IED)~~, and

when it is ~~detected~~ said address-information error detection means detects that there is no error in the address information in at least one address field in each sector ~~(OK-e)~~, ~~the~~ said timing generation means ~~(114)~~ inhibits ~~the~~ said counted-value correction means ~~(304)~~ ~~to correct from correcting~~ the counted value even if an address mark is detected ~~(AMDP-d)~~ in the subsequent address fields thereafter in the subject sector.

13. **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Cancelled)**

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical disk recording method according to claim 14,~~  
An optical-disk recording method for recording data in a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said method comprising:

detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and  
deciding and controlling a period of recording data in the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data recording period uses an address-mark detection timing in deciding and controlling the data recording period;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data recording period includes  
detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information  
based on the address information and the error detection code, and

generating a recording timing signal for deciding a data recording  
operation by using the address mark detection timing and a timing of detecting in  
said detecting of the presence or absence of the error that there is no error in the  
address information; and

wherein said data-recording decision and control step (110, 113, 114) deciding  
and controlling of the data recording period, when recording data in the data recording  
field of a predetermined sector, permits data recording only in the following two cases  
when recording data in the data recording field of a predetermined sector:

(case 1) where address information having no error detected is obtained as  
a result of error detection in the subject sector executed in the address-information  
error detection step (113) said detecting of the presence or absence of an error,  
and

(case 2) where at least one piece of address information having no error  
detected is obtained in a predetermined number of sectors preceding the subject



sector as a result of error detection and at least one address mark is detected in the address mark field of the subject sector.

16. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The optical-disk recording method according to claim 14,~~  
An optical-disk recording method for recording data in a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said optical-disk recording method comprising:

detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and  
deciding and controlling a period of recording data in the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data recording period uses an address-mark detection timing in deciding and controlling the data recording period;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data recording period includes  
detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information  
based on the address information and the error detection code, and

generating a recording timing signal for deciding a data recording  
operation by using the address mark detection timing and a timing of detecting in  
said detecting of the presence or absence of an error that there is no error in the  
address information; and

wherein said ~~timing generation step (114)~~generating of the recording timing  
signal includes:

a ~~step (201, 401)~~ of generating a reference clock serving as a criterion of  
recording data;

a ~~step (202, 402)~~ of count-specifying a position in one sector by using the  
reference clock generated in said generating of the reference clock;

a ~~step (204, 404)~~ of correcting the ~~counted~~-values counted in said ~~counting~~  
step count-specifying of the position in one sector with predetermined values (A

to H) at the address-mark detection timing (AMDP) of detecting the address mark and the a timing (CRCOK) of detecting that there is no error in the address information executed in said detecting of the presence or absence of an error; and  
a decoding step (203, 403) of decoding the counted value obtained in the counting step said count-specifying of the position in one sector corrected with the predetermined values to thereby produce the recording-timing signals (~~WGS, ENBL~~).

17. **(Currently Amended)** The optical-disk recording method according to claim 16, wherein said decoding step (403) of the counted value

decodes the counted value obtained in the counting step (402) said count-specifying of the position in one sector to generate an address-mark detection window (~~AMDWNS~~), and

permits the correction of the counted value in the counted-value correction step (404) said correcting of the counted values when the address-mark detection timing (~~AMDP; AMDP b, c, and d~~) is present within the address-mark detection window (~~AMDWNS~~), and

inhibits said correcting of the counted values from correcting the correction of the counted value in the counted-value correction step (404) when the address-mark detection timing (~~AMDP; AMDP a~~) is not present outside within the address-mark detection window (~~AMDNWS~~).

18. **(Currently Amended)** The optical-disk recording method according to claim 16, wherein:

the header field (~~1002~~) in each sector includes a plurality of address fields (~~1004a to 1004d~~) each having an address mark field (~~AM~~), an address information field (~~PID~~), and an error detection code field; (~~IED~~), and

when ~~it is detected~~ said detecting of the presence or absence of an error detects that there is no error in the address information in at least one address field in each sector (~~OK e~~), the timing generation step (114) said generating of the recording timing signal inhibits the correction of the counted value in the counted-value correction step (204) said

correcting of the counted values even if an address mark is detected (AMDP-d) in the subsequent address fields thereafter in the subject sector.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical-disk reproducing method according to claim 20,~~ An optical-disk reproducing method for reproducing data from a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said optical-disk reproducing method comprising:

detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and

deciding and controlling a period of reproducing data from the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data reproducing period uses an address-mark detection timing in deciding and controlling the data reproducing period;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data reproducing period includes

detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information based on the address information and the error detection code, and

generating a reproducing timing signal for deciding a data reproducing operation by using the address-mark detection timing and a timing of detecting in said detecting of the presence or absence of an error that there is no error in the address information; and

wherein said data-reproducing decision and control step (110, 113, 114) deciding and controlling of the data reproducing period, when reproducing data from the data recording field of a predetermined sector, permits data reproduction only in the following two cases when reproducing data from the data recording field of a predetermined sector:

(~~case 1~~)-where address information having no error detected is obtained as a result of error detection in the subject sector executed in ~~the address information error detection step (113)~~ said detecting of the presence or absence of an error, and

(~~case 2~~)-where at least one piece of address information having no error detected is obtained in a predetermined number of sectors preceding the subject sector as a result of error detection and at least one address mark is detected in the address mark field of the subject sector.

22. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The optical disk reproducing method according to claim 20,~~ An optical-disk reproducing method for reproducing data from a data recording field of an optical disk having a sector structure constituted of a header field previously storing address information and a data recording field for storing data, the header field including an address mark field storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field storing address information, and an error detection code field storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field, said optical-disk reproducing method comprising:

detecting an address mark stored in the address mark field of the sector; and  
deciding and controlling a period of reproducing data from the data recording field of the sector;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data reproducing period uses an address-mark detection timing in deciding and controlling the data reproducing period;

wherein said deciding and controlling of the data reproducing period includes  
detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information  
based on the address information and the error detection code, and

generating a reproducing timing signal for deciding a data reproducing operation by using the address-mark detection timing and a timing of detecting in said detecting of the presence or absence of an error that there is no error in the address information; and

wherein ~~the timing generating step (114)~~ said generating of the reproducing timing signal includes:

a ~~step (301, 401)~~ of generating a reference clock serving as a criterion of reproducing data;

a ~~step (302, 402)~~ of count-specifying a position in one sector by using the reference clock generated in said generating of the reference clock;

a ~~counted-value correction step (304, 404)~~ of correcting the counted values counted in said counting step (302, 402) count-specifying of the position in one sector with predetermined values (A to H) at the address-mark detection timing (AMDP) of detecting the address mark and ~~the a timing (CRCOK) of detecting that there is no error in the address information executed in the address-information error detection step~~ said detecting of the presence or absence of an error; and

a ~~decoding step (303, 403)~~ of decoding the counted value obtained in the counting stepsaid count-specifying of the position in one sector corrected with the predetermined values to thereby produce the reproducing-timing signals (~~RGS, WNS~~).

23. **(Currently Amended)** The optical-disk reproducing method according to claim 22, wherein said decoding ~~step (403)~~ of the counted value

decodes the counted value obtained in ~~the counting step (402)~~ said count-specifying of the position in one sector to generate an address-mark detection window (~~AMDWNS~~), and

permits the correction of the counted value in ~~the counted-value correction step (404)~~ said correcting of the counted values when the address-mark detection timing (~~AMDP; AMDP b, c, and d~~) is present within the address-mark detection window (~~AMDWNS~~), and

inhibits said correcting of the counted values from correcting the correction of the counted value in the counted-value correction step (404) when the address-mark detection timing (~~AMDP; AMDP a~~) is not present outside within the address-mark detection window (~~AMDNWS~~).

**24. (Currently Amended)** The optical-disk reproducing method according to claim 22, wherein:

the header field (1002) in each sector includes a plurality of address fields (1004a to 1004d) each having an address mark field (AM), an address information field (PID), and an error detection code field (IED), and

when it is detected said detecting of the presence or absence of an error detects that there is no error in the address information in at least one address field in each sector (OK-e), the timing generation means (114) said generating of the timing reproducing signal inhibits the correction of the counted value in the counted-value correction step (304) said correcting of the counted values even if an address mark is detected (AMDP-d) in the subsequent address fields thereafter in the subject sector.

**25. (Currently Amended)** An information recording system for recording information including transfer-rate-priority data and transfer-rate-nonpriority data in mixture supplied from an external unit (502) to an optical disk (101) having a sector structure constituted of a header field (1002) previously storing address information and a data recording field (1003) for storing data, said system comprising:

an optical disk drive (501) for recording data to the data recording field in a predetermined sector of the optical disk; and

determination means (503, S1402, S1504) for determining whether the information to be recorded to the optical disk is transfer-rate-priority data (510) or transfer-rate-nonpriority data; (511),

wherein when said determination means determines that the information to be recorded to the optical disk is the transfer-rate-priority data, the said optical disk drive (501) records-is operable to record the information in the sector to record the data even if there are errors equal to or more than a predetermined criterion in address information in the sector to record the data (case 1403); and

wherein when said determination means determines the data is the transfer-rate-nonpriority data, the said optical disk drive (501) records-is operable to record the data in a substitute sector without recording the data in the subject sector to record the data if

there are errors equal to or more than the predetermined criterion in the subject sector  
(cases 1402-1503).

**26. (Currently Amended)** The information recording system according to claim 25,  
wherein:

the header field includes an address mark field (~~AM~~) storing an address mark  
showing a beginning of address information, an address information field (~~PID~~) storing  
address information, and an error detection code field (~~IED~~) storing an error detection  
code for detecting an error in the address information field;

said system further ~~comprising~~ comprises

address-mark detection means (~~111, step S1501~~) for detecting an address  
mark recorded in the address mark field of the subject sector, and

data-recording decision and control means (~~110, 113, 114~~) for deciding  
and controlling a period of recording data to the data recording field (~~1003~~) of the  
subject sector; and,

wherein said data-recording decision and control means uses an the  
address-mark detection timing (~~AMDP~~) is used for decision and control deciding  
and controlling of the data recording period.

**27. (Currently Amended)** The information recording system according to claim 26,  
wherein said data-recording decision and control means (~~110, 113, 114~~) includes:

address-information error detecting means (~~113; steps S1401, S1502~~) for  
detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address information based on the  
address information and the error detection code; and

timing generation means (~~114~~) for generating a recording timing signal (~~WGS,~~  
~~ENBL~~) for deciding a data recording operation by using the address mark detection  
timing (~~AMDP~~) and ~~the a~~ timing (~~CRCOK~~) of detecting that there is no error in the  
address information.

**28. (Currently Amended)** The information recording system according to claim 27,  
wherein said data-recording decision and control means, (~~110, 113, 114~~) when recording

data in the data recording field of a predetermined sector, determines (S1402, S1504)  
whether or not the supplied data is the transfer-rate-priority data (510) ~~in the following~~  
~~two cases when recording data in the data recording field of a predetermined sector:~~

(~~case 1~~)-where address information having no error detected is obtained as a result  
of error detection in the subject sector executed ~~in the~~ by said address-information error  
detection step (113, ~~step S1502~~)means, and

(~~case 2~~)-where at least one piece of address information having no error detected  
is obtained in a predetermined number of sectors preceding the subject sector as a result  
of executing the address-information error detection by said address-information error  
detection means and at least one address mark is detected (~~step S1503~~) in the address  
mark field of the subject sector.

29. **(Currently Amended)** The information recording system according to claim 25,  
wherein said ~~data-determination means (503, S1402, S1504)~~ determines whether the  
information is transfer-rate-priority data or transfer-rate-nonpriority data by interpreting  
(~~S1601~~) whether a command is a command for handling the transfer-rate-priority data or  
a command for handling the transfer-rate-nonpriority data issued from an external unit  
(502) to the optical disk drive (501).

30. **(Currently Amended)** The information recording system according to claim 25,  
wherein said ~~data-determination means (503, S1402, S1504)~~ determines whether the  
information is transfer-rate-priority data or transfer-rate-nonpriority data depending on  
~~the~~ a content of a set mode (~~S1701~~) set to the optical disk drive (501) from an external  
unit (502) indicating whether the set mode is a mode for handling the transfer-rate-  
priority data or a mode for handling the transfer-rate-nonpriority data.

31. **(Currently Amended)** The information recording system according to claim 25,  
further comprising a file system (~~507~~) for filing the information to be handled, wherein  
each file is provided with a file attribute showing transfer-rate-priority data or not, and  
wherein said determination means determines transfer-rate-priority data or transfer-rate-



nonpriority data in accordance with the fact that the attribute of each file provided by the file system shows transfer rate priority or transfer rate nonpriority.

**32. (Currently Amended)** An information recording method for recording data supplied from an external unit (~~502~~) in a data recording field of an optical disk (~~101~~) having a sector structure constituted of a header field (~~1002~~) previously storing address information and a data recording field (~~1003~~) for storing data, ~~the said method~~ comprising:

a ~~step (S1402, S1504) of~~ determining whether or not the information to be recorded to the optical disk is transfer-rate-priority data (~~510~~) ~~or not~~, and

a ~~control step (Cases 1402, 1503) of~~ recording the data in the sector to record the data even if there are errors equal to or more than a predetermined criterion in address information in the sector to record the data (~~Case 1403, Case 2~~) in the case of when the data to be recorded is determined in said determining to be the transfer-rate-priority data, and recording the data in a substitute sector without recording the data in the subject sector to record the data if there are errors equal to or more than the predetermined criterion in the subject sector (~~eases 1402-1503~~) in case of when the data to be recorded is determined in said determining to be the transfer-rate-nonpriority data.

**33. (Currently Amended)** The information recording method according to claim 32, wherein:

the header field includes an address mark field (~~AM~~) storing an address mark showing a beginning of address information, an address information field (~~PID~~) storing address information, and an error detection code field (~~IED~~) storing an error detection code for detecting an error in the address information field;<sub>3</sub>

wherein said method further comprising the steps of: comprises

detecting (~~111, step S1501~~) an address mark recorded in the address mark field of the subject sector, and

deciding and controlling (~~110, 113, 114~~) a period of recording data to the data recording field (~~1003~~) of the subject sector;<sub>3</sub>

wherein said deciding and controlling of the period of recording data uses the ~~an~~ address-mark detection timing (AMDP) is used for decision and control deciding and controlling of the data recording period.

**34. (Currently Amended)** The information recording method according to claim 33, wherein said ~~data-recording decision and control step (110, 113, 114)~~ deciding and controlling of the data recording period includes:

~~an address-information error detecting step (113; steps S1401, S1502) of detecting a presence or absence of an error in the address-information-address information~~ based on the address information and the error detection code; and

~~a timing-generation step (114) of generating a recording timing signal (WGS, ENBL) for deciding a data recording operation by using the address mark detection timing (AMDP) and the a timing (CRCOK) detected in the address-information error detecting step of said detecting of the presence or absence of an error for detecting that there is no error in the address information.~~

**35. (Currently Amended)** The information recording method according to claim 34, wherein said ~~data-recording decision and control step (110, 113, 114)~~ deciding and controlling of the data recording period, when recording data in the data recording field of a predetermined sector, determines whether or not the supplied data is the transfer-rate-priority data (510) ~~in the following two cases when recording data in the data recording field of a predetermined sector (S1402, S1504):~~

~~(case 1) where address information having no error detected is obtained as a result of error detection in the subject sector executed in the address-information error detection step (113, step S1502) said detecting of the presence or absence of an error, and~~

~~(case 2) where at least one piece of address information having no error detected is obtained in a predetermined number of sectors preceding the subject sector as a result of executing the address-information error detection and at least one address mark is detected in the address mark field of the subject sector (step S1503).~~

36. **(Currently Amended)** The information recording method according to claim 32, wherein said ~~data determination step (503, S1402, S1504)~~determining determines whether the information is transfer-rate-priority data or transfer-rate-nonpriority data by interpreting ~~(S1601)~~-whether a command is a command for handling the transfer-rate-priority data or a command for handling the transfer-rate-nonpriority data issued from an external unit ~~(502)~~-to the optical disk drive ~~(501)~~.

37. **(Currently Amended)** The information recording method according to claim 32, wherein said ~~data determination step (503, S1402, S1504)~~determining determines whether the information is transfer-rate-priority data or transfer-rate-nonpriority data depending on ~~the a~~ content of a set mode ~~(S1701)~~-set to the optical disk drive ~~(501)~~-from an external unit ~~(502)~~-indicating whether the set mode is a mode for handling the transfer-rate-priority data or a mode for handling the transfer-rate-nonpriority data.